

THE COMMUNITY OF ST PHILIP
AT WORSHIP
MARCH 21, 2021
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Opening Voluntary

Variations on a Shape-Note Hymn
Op. 34

Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

Introit

Give Judgment for Me, O God

Chant

Give judgment for me, O God,
and defend my cause against an ungodly people;
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.
For you are my God and my strong salvation.
Send out your light and your truth that they may lead me,
and bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

— Psalm 43:1-2a, 3

Opening Sentences

Hymn 264 ([see page 5](#))

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
your giving is without end;
but we struggle to receive all that you offer.
We misuse your gifts,
ignoring your intents,
and refusing your abundance.
We hoard what you would have us share,
and we throw away what you would have us keep.

Forgive us and help us discern your priorities.
Govern our hearts with your spirit,
so that we can live into the fullness of the gospel,
and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

silent prayer

Response*Lord, have mercy* | KyrieJohn Weaver
(1937-2021)

Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Declaration of ForgivenessBelieve in the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.****Response***Glory to the Father* | Gloria Patri

John Weaver

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is
now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men. A - men. A - men.

The PeacePeace be with you. **Peace be with all.****Prayer for Illumination****First Reading**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.****Anthem***Give Us, Lord, a New Heart*Bernadette Farrell
(b. 1957)

Give us, Lord, a new heart; recreate your spirit with us.

I will cleanse you in living waters, I will wash away your sin.
I will put a new spirit in you and you shall live.I will implant my law deep within you,
I will write it on your hearts.
I will be your God, and you shall be my people.For all your faults I will grant forgiveness,
nevermore will I remember your sins.

— Ezekiel 3:25-26 | Jeremiah 31:33-34

Gospel Reading

John 12:20-33

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem*Jesus, So Lowly*Harold Friedell
(1905-1958)

Jesus, so lowly, child of the earth,
 Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.
 Jesus, so lowly, weary and sad,
 Teach me that only love maketh glad.
 Jesus, so broken, silent and pale,
 Be this the token — love will not fail.
 Jesus, victorious, mighty and free,
 Teach me how glorious death is to be.

— words by Edith Williams (1889-?)

Sermon

Learning from Philip

John W. Wurster

Hymn 215 [\(see page 6\)](#)*What Wondrous Love Is This*

WONDROUS LOVE

Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
 everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
 The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
 sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
 and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit
 who inspired the prophets and apostles
 rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
 engages us through the Word proclaimed,
 claims us in the waters of baptism,
 and feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
 to pray without ceasing,
 to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
 to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
 to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
 and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
 we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
 and to live holy and joyful lives,
 even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
 praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,
 we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
 can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
 for Thine is the Kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Charge and Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Wir glauben all an einen Gott
BWV 680

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Keatan King and Omar Rouchon

Musicians

Julia Fox, Cecilia Duarte, Thomas Lewis O'Neill, and Nicholas Rathgeb – choral quartet
Matthew Dirst – organist | Randall Swanson – music director

WORSHIP NOTES

- Jeremiah 31:31-34 – *God says: I will make a new covenant, writing my law in your heart.*
- Psalm 51:1-12 – *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new spirit within me.*
- Psalm 119:9-16 – *I seek you, O Lord, with my whole heart; I treasure your word.*
- Hebrews 5:5-10 – *Jesus Christ, our high priest, is the source of eternal salvation.*
- John 12:20-33 – *Jesus says: Now I will be glorified; I will die and be lifted up.*

MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

The American composer Samuel Barber wrote just a few works for the organ. Among them is a set of variations on WONDROUS LOVE, one of the best-known of shape-note hymn melodies, offered as today's opening voluntary. Invented in England, the practice of shape-note singing refers to musical notation that uses various shapes for the notes of the solfege system. Choral and congregational music notated in this manner include dozens of 19th-century song-books and hymnals, including Southern Harmony, the best-known shape-note source still in use.

Today's closing voluntary is a setting by J. S. Bach of the German chorale melody *Wir glauben all an einen Gott* ("We All Believe in One True God"). One of two organ pieces based on this tune in Bach's *Clavier-Übung III*, it treats the melody freely, in the manner of a contrapuntal fantasy.

Choral Music

Today's **first anthem** is by British composer Bernadette Farrell, who specializes in writing liturgical

music, mostly on biblical texts. *Give Us, Lord, a New Heart* was composed in 1980, and is particularly appropriate for Lenten themes of forgiveness and renewal, as well as setting words of Jeremiah from part of this morning's first scripture reading.

This morning's **second anthem** is a beautifully contemplative work by American composer and organist Harold Friedell, who taught at the Juilliard School and Union Seminary, while also serving as organist and choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City. Though more of his works deserve to be heard, next to his very well-known *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*, Friedell's *Jesus, so lowly* is one of but a small number of his anthems still consistently sung. The anthem's strophic text is now the only widely-known poem by Edith Williams, who was the sister of British poet, novelist, theologian, and scholar Charles Williams (1886-1945).

– Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art by Micah Meyers.

Opening Hymn 264 At the Name of Jesus music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Kyrie and Gloria Patri © Estate of John Weaver. All rights reserved. Reprints and online streaming by permission under OneLicense.net account A-720890.

Opening Hymn 264

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
 2 Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
 3 Bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
 4 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast,
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

This may well be a hymn based on a hymn, for scholars say that the passage behind it (Philippians 2:5–11), though not in the style of Greek poetry, shows traits of a communal creedal statement capable of being sung. It is set here to one of the composer's most sonorous tunes.

TEXT: Caroline Maria Noel, 1870, alt.
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925
 Music © 1925 Oxford University Press

KING'S WESTON
 6.5.6.5.D

[Return to bulletin](#)



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



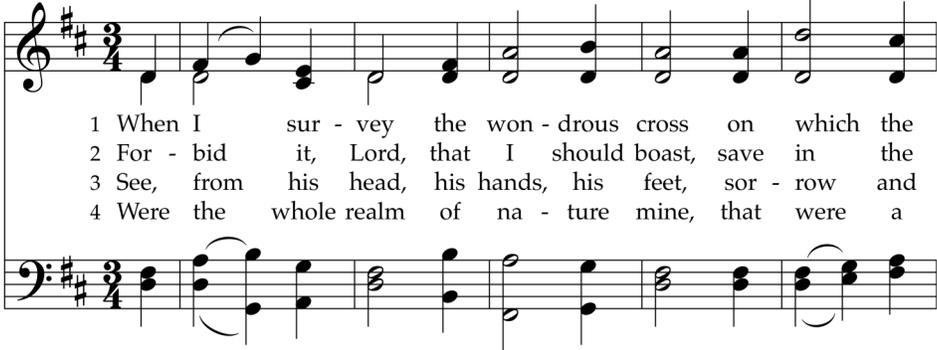
soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

Closing Hymn 224

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

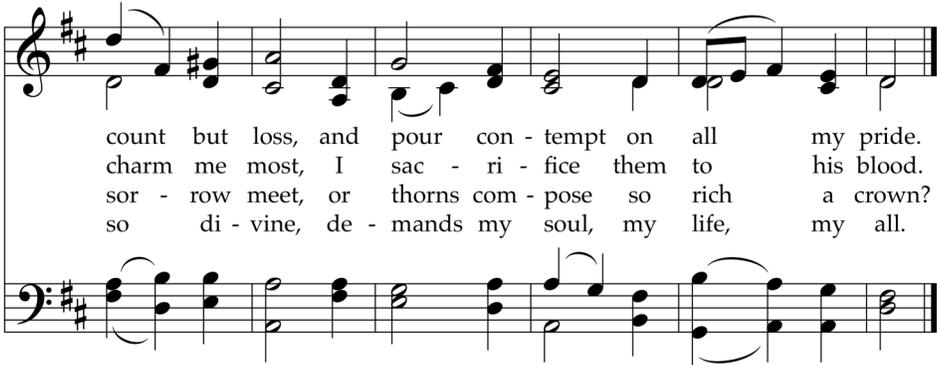
ROCKINGHAM



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

This carefully crafted text from the beginning of the 18th century conveys much the same intensity and vividness as a miniature painting of Christ's crucifixion, and this lyrical and dignified tune reinforces the sense that time stands still while we share such meditation.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707
 MUSIC: *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, 1783; harm. Edward Miller, 1790

ROCKINGHAM
 LM

[Return to bulletin](#)

IN OUR PRAYERS

The family of Alice Pennington upon the death of their mother on March 13.

Anne Marie Benard and family upon the death of her father Kenneth Allan Henick on January 5.

St. Philippians and their families – Travis Calhoun; Kay Cash; Sondra Sullivan; Mary Margaret Hansen; Doris Cantrell; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Mezgebe Gebray; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; Dixie Hahn – sister of Mary Sinderson; Brad Davis – nephew of Sam Fisher; Douglas Everhart – brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; Betty Grant – sister-in-law of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher – sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Bessie Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Mac & Beverly Wilson – parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family – daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family – cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron – sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan – father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe – mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; Mary Sinderson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

Friends of St. Philippians – Judith Tomaino – friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Jack Burrell – friend of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Paul Ratliff – friend of Jo Helland; Bill McDonald and Jackson Tavel – friends of Curt and Sharon Webb; David Shebay – friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker – friends of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those watch and wait.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email deacons@saintphilip.net.

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>), text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

We continue to invite you to attend our daily prayer services at 11:00 a.m. (Monday-Saturday). Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day. Please enter the Sanctuary through the large wooden front doors by 10:50 a.m. You may bring your own face-mask or one will be provided. You may sit anywhere in the sanctuary, appropriately distanced from others. The service will conclude by 11:15.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE – We will offer outdoor worship opportunities on the church campus on a week-to-week basis. Worship services will begin at 9:00 am. Worshipers are asked to bring their own chairs or blankets. We will also have chairs available at the church for those who need them. Worshipers will be spaced on the lawn at appropriate distances. The lawn service will last about thirty minutes. Registration is required and will open the Monday before the service; link can be found in pastoral email updates or through MyStPhilip. If the event has reached capacity, the event sign-up closes.

Link for **March 28 will be live Monday, March 22** – [click here](#) to access it then.

If you have trouble with the registration or are not online, please call/text Lorrie Castle (832-262-1244). We will also have the usual 11:00 service that day, which will continue to be on-line only.

[Our website](#) has information a current list of **opportunities on Zoom** for fellowship and spiritual formation.

CHURCH & SOCIETY - 9:30 a.m. – March 28 – Palm Sunday - *Mary's Child* - Matthew Dirst, St. Philip organist, leads us in a study of the reaction of Mary to the events of Holy Week with Marian laments, "Stabat Mater", in visual art, literature, and music. Dr. Matthew Dirst is a Professor of Music at the Moores School of Music at University of Houston and the Artistic Director of Ars Lyrica, Houston. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes – mmcgm63@gmail.com.

EASTER LILIES – Donations for Brookwood Community Easter lilies are now being received. The lilies will decorate our Easter worship, both outdoors at 9 a.m. and our livestreamed service from the sanctuary at 11 a.m. Donations may be made for any amount by using [this link](#) to donate, the memo line is limited in the number of characters, please e-mail Lorrie Castle (lorrie@saintphilip.net) with the details of your dedication, including your name and the person(s) being honored and/or remembered. Or you can mail a check with the same information to the church. Mailed dedications should arrive by **March 29**. Thanks for your help in continuing this holiday tradition! There are working on ways to make lilies safely available for pick-up and enjoyment the following week.